

January 29, 2011

To: Amherst Public Works Committee
Guilford Mooring, Superintendent of Public Works

From: Janice and James Ratner

Re: Closing of Lincoln Avenue

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the possible closing of Lincoln Avenue. We are not affiliated with the University but we are residents and taxpayers in the Town of Amherst and do occasionally use Lincoln Avenue. If this is a town way and taxpayers are paying for the maintenance of this street, then everyone should be able to use it. It is not a private way. Those who live on this street moved here after the University began. They knew or should have known what the traffic and neighborhood was like before they purchased their homes.

We do agree that measures can be taken to slow traffic and make the street safer for residents but feel that this can be done without inconveniencing those who would like to use this public street. There could be speed bumps. There could be stop signs at every intersection. Potholes could go unfilled. There could be an increased police presence.

We are sure there are others in town living on busy streets who would like to live on private ways. Is it fair to do this for the vocal few?

We hope you will take our comments into consideration when making your decision regarding the closing of Lincoln Avenue.